

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 10746 161625Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 CU-04 NAS-01
FS-01 ABF-01 /025 W
-----074947 161640Z /70
P 161427Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9980

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STATE FOR OES
PASS COMMERCE FOR ASST. SECRETARY BARUCH
PASS TREASURY FOR ASST. SECRETARY BERGSTEN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH, IS
SUBJECT: U.S.-ISRAEL BINATIONAL INDUSTRIAL R&D FOUNDATION (BIRDF)

1. IN ABSENCE OF AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SCIATT HAS TAKEN A NUMBER OF ACTIONS, NOTED BELOW, TO MAINTAIN MOMENTUM OF BIRDF. FURTHER ACTIONS WILL PROBABLY BE NEEDED. EMBASSY PREFERS THAT SCIATT HAVE NO FORMAL ROLE IN BIRDF OPERATIONS, HOWEVER, WE SEE AN OVERRIDING TEMPORARY NEED TO MAINTAIN "BILATERAL" DECISION-MAKING PROCESS UNTIL ARRIVAL HERE OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. EARLY TELEGRAPHIC RATIFICATION OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY SCIATT WOULD BE APPRECIATED, AS WELL AS GUIDANCE AND AUTHORIZATION FOR FURTHER ACTIONS.

2. FOLLOWING ACTIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN:

(A) BY LETTER OF DECEMBER 5, 1977 TO BANK OF ISRAEL, SIGNED BY LAVIE AND SCIATT, \$18,933.22 WAS TRANSFERRED TO A U.S. BANK FOR PAYMENT TO A. WADE BLACKMAN.

(B) BY CHECK DATED DECEMBER 12, 1977, SIGNED BY LAVIE AND SCIATT, 1000,000 ISRAELI POUNDS WERE
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DEPOSITED IN A OPERATING ACCOUNT NAMED "DIRDF POUND ACCOUNT" (NO. 105-111996) IN THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL BANK OF ISRAEL, LTD IN TEL AVIV. BIRDF POUND ACCOUNT MAY BE OPERATED BY JOINT SIGNATURES OF BIRDF TECHNOLOGIST DOV EDEN AND SCIATT.
(C) BASED ON NUMEROUS CONVERSATIONS WITH BLACKMAN AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH SPECIFIC WISHES OF LAVIE,

SCIATT HAS WRITTEN LETTER DATED DECEMBER 14, 1977 TO EDEN AUTHORIZING HIM TO WRITE LETTERS OF INTENT TO HIRE ONE SECRETARY AND ONE ADMINISTRATOR FOR BIRDF STAFF, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1978. IN ABSENCE OF SUCH LETTERS THESE PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYEES WOULD HAVE BEEN LOST AND MORE TIME SPENT SEEKING REPLACEMENTS.

3. WE BELIEVE FOLLOWING ACTIONS NECESSARY DURING NEXT FEW WEEKS:

(A) SCIATT AND LAVIE TO COSIGN LETTER TO EDEN, HIRING HIM AS TECHNOLOGIST FOR BIRDF AT SALARY EQUIVALENT TO "SENIOR RESEARCH ENGINEER EMPLOYED BY LARGE ISRAELI FIRM" AND ESTIMATED AT 20,000 POUNDS (\$1,316) MONTHLY PLUS CERTAIN REQUIRED "EMPLOYER" PAYMENTS TO GOI. EDEN HAS BEEN WORKING FOR BIRDF ENTIRELY ON BASIS OF VERBAL UNDERSTANDING AMONG HIM, BLACKMAN, LAVIE AND ISAACS, OF LAVIE'S OFFICE.

(B) LAVIE AND SCIATT TO COSIGN LETTERS SIMILAR TO ABOVE, RETAINING SERVICES OF SECRETARY AND ADMINISTRATOR, AND SPECIFYING REASONABLE SALARIES AS DETERMINED JOINTLY BY GOI AND EMBASSY.

(C) SCIATT TO SIGN CHECKS ON BIRDF POUND ACCOUNT, JOINTLY WITH EDEN, FOR PAYMENT OF FIVE ITEMS: EDEN'S SALARY, TELEPHONE AND TELEX BILLS, PRINTING OF STATIONERY AND GUIDELINES, SUPPLIES AND TYPEWRITER. NOVEMBER 23 BUDGET SIGNED BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BARACH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PLUS LETTER OF DECEMBER 8 TO SCIATT FROM LAVIE CONCURRING IN DISBURSEMENTS FOR FIVE ITEMS MENTIONED ABOVE WOULD SEEM TO CONSTITUTE WRITTEN "EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE" AUTHORITY FOR SUCH EXPENDITURES.

(D) IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT OTHER UNFORESEEN BUT REASONABLE EXPENSES WILL BE INCURRED BY BIRDF IN COMING WEEKS, AS DESCRIBED IN AFOREMENTIONED NOVEMBER 23 BUDGET. DEPARTMENTS MAY WISH TO AUTHORIZE SCIATT TO USE BIRDF FUNDS FOR OTHER ITEMS IN THIS BUDGET WITH WHICH LAVIE MAY CONCUR, WITHIN PRESCRIBED LIMITS. VIETS

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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TAGS: TECH, IS
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